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SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION: IMPLEMENTATION OF THE OUTCOME OF THE UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON HUMAN SETTLEMENTS (HABITAT II)

United Republic of Tanzania*: draft resolution

Implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II)

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 51/177 of 16 December 1996, in which it endorsed the Istanbul Declaration on Human Settlements and the Habitat Agenda, which were adopted by the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) on 14 June 1996 at Istanbul,

Cognizant of the importance of maintaining the momentum already generated at the national, regional and international levels for the implementation of measures designed to address the economic, social and environmental consequences of rapid urbanization,

Stressing the need to improve conditions of shelter, access to safe drinking water, adequate sanitation and basic social services in both rural and urban areas,

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* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

[1] A/CONF.165/14, chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

Also recalling paragraph 218 of the Habitat Agenda and operative paragraph 15 of Assembly resolution 51/177 on the need to hold a special session of the General Assembly in the year 2001 for an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of the outcome of Habitat II,

Noting with regret that the Secretary-General has not submitted the final comprehensive and in-depth assessment of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements with a view to its revitalization, as called for in Assembly resolution 51/177, and stressing that that has prevented Member States from addressing those issues in a timely manner,

1. Takes note of the report of the Commission on Human Settlements on its sixteenth session (Nairobi, 28 April-7 May 1997),[1] as well as on the implementation of the Global Strategy for Shelter to the Year 2000,[2] and the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II);[3]

2. Welcomes the actions by the Executive Director of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements towards the reform of the administrative and financial management of the Centre pursuant to the recommendations of the report of the Secretary-General,[4] as well as the relevant reports of the United Nations Board of Auditors and resolutions 16/8, 16/19, 16/28 and 16/29 of the Commission on Human Settlements;

3. Requests the Secretary-General to submit to it at its fifty-third session the comprehensive and in-depth assessment of the Centre with a view to its revitalization, which was called for in operative paragraph 19 of Assembly resolution 51/177, taking into account resolution 16/8 and other relevant resolutions adopted by the Commission on Human Settlements at its sixteenth session;

4. Requests the Secretary-General to address urgently the serious management and financial situation at the Centre to meet its responsibilities in the implementation of the Habitat Agenda;

5. Urges all Governments and other actors concerned with human settlements and urban management issues, such as local authorities, relevant intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations, parliamentarians, the private sector, trade unions, academicians and other community groups, to implement fully and effectively the Habitat Agenda;

6. Affirms that in a rapidly urbanizing world, the pivotal role of local authorities in the implementation of the Habitat Agenda should be recognized and enhanced;

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[1] Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-second Session, Supplement No. 8 (A/52/8).

[2] A/52/8/Add.1.

[3] A/52/181-E/1997/77.

[4] A/52/___.

7. Requests all relevant organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, including the regional commissions and the Bretton Woods institutions, to support fully the effective implementation of the Habitat Agenda at all levels, particularly at the national level;

8. Stresses that the full and effective implementation of the Habitat Agenda, in particular in all developing countries, especially in Africa and the least developed countries, will require the mobilization of additional financial resources from various sources at the national and international levels and more effective development cooperation in order to promote assistance for shelter and human settlements activities;

9. Calls upon the international community, in particular developed countries, to increase their contributions to the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation for its follow-up to the Habitat Agenda;

10. Requests the Secretary-General to bring the financial arrangements of the United Nations Office at Nairobi into line with those of similar United Nations administrative offices;

11. Decides to hold a special session of the General Assembly in the year 2001 for an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II), including the identification of obstacles and the consideration of further actions and initiatives, and to that end requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly, at its fifty-fourth session, a report containing recommendations for consideration by the Assembly on the format, scope, organizational and substantive aspects of the special session;

12. Decides that the eighteenth session of the Commission on Human Settlements, in 2001, shall be the preparatory mechanism for the special session of the General Assembly, and shall be open-ended to allow the full participation of all States;

13. Invites the Economic and Social Council to consider dedicating one high-level segment before the year 2001 to human settlements and the implementation of the Habitat Agenda, and in that context requests the relevant organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, such as the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and the World Trade Organization, to contribute to the preparation of such a high-level segment;

14. Requests the Secretary-General to submit to it at its fifty-third session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

15. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-third session the sub-item "Implementation of the outcome of the Second United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II)".